

Chevening VE80 Book of Commemoration

A Collection of responses to the 80th Anniversary of VE & VJ Day



Chevening St. Botolph's CEP School 2025

First Edition ~ All rights reserved.

ISBN

Also available as an ebook

www.lulu.com/spotlight/Chevening

www.Chevening.Kent.Sch.Uk

office@chevening.kent.sch.uk

nqureshi@chevening.kent.sch.uk

Preface

On Thursday 8th May 2025, the 80th Anniversary of VE Day was commemorated in the UK and Europe. Of course the war in the Far East rumbled on until 15th August 1945 and so VJ Day was marked later in the year.

There have been many special and moving events commemorating this milestone in the UK. At Chevening School we also felt that it was important to reflect on this important occasion in different ways. Many of the national events focused on the celebratory nature of the day and honored those who sacrificed so much. While this is very important, it was noted that survivors from the time often added a unique tone and focus, drawing upon their lived experience. Given the time that has passed, this may be the last 'big anniversary' where we can hear their important testimony and message first hand – so often asserting that 'We must never let this happen again'.

As a result, we have tried hard to put on events that keep that delicate balance between remembering those involved with the war, their courage and sacrifice; celebrating the cessation of the war; and reflecting on the impact of war. There have been moving testimonies and plays, songs, poems and artwork. We have tried to capture elements of this in our book as well as testimonies from all those belonging to the Chevening family. This book is a collection of reflections; stories, poems, pictures, historical accounts, photographs and more which capture the thoughts and feelings of our community at this time.

A massive thank you to everyone who has contributed: children, parents, extended family members, staff, governors, members of Chevening Church; and Bishop Simon! We hope you find this work as moving as we have.

Nadeem Qureshi



Micah 4:3 (NIV) He will judge between many people. He will decide for strong nations that are far away. Then they will beat their swords into plows, and their spears into cutting hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and they will never learn war any more.

Thank you to...

Our wonderful Office Staff for collating the information, and the whole of Chevening's friends, family, governors and staff for contributing to this book.

A special thank you to Bishop Simon

for taking time in his busy schedule of service to submit the entry below for inclusion in our book.

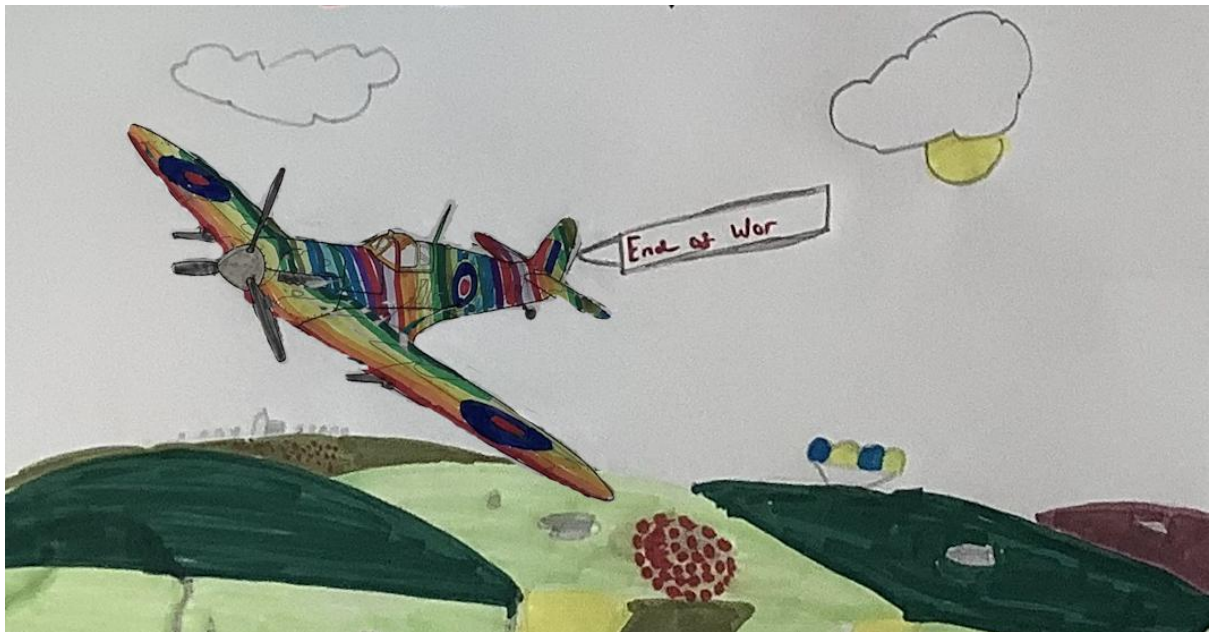
Returning Home – Bishop Simon

My seaside Lancashire born dad was conscripted as a teenager, like so many, and sent to the war in the Far East against Japan. News of Victory in Europe day was greeted with relief by the troops there, but for them the war with Japan was far from over, and there was a very real risk of mass casualties in the event of an invasion of Japan itself, which seemed the only route to peace. Then news came to them of a strange and powerful new bomb being dropped on Japan by the United States Air Force (USAF), followed soon after by another bomb, that led soon after to the end of hostilities as Japan surrendered.

They weren't to know this was the dawn of the nuclear age, which has cast a shadow over the world since. They were, however, delighted to know they would eventually return home to family to build a life.

I am writing this eighty years to the day since that first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima.

Bishop Simon
August 6, 2025



Spitfire By James

Wartime School Days – Miss Minnis



Mum's childhood was dominated by wartime conditions; she started primary school and was soon used to carrying her gas mask on her daily walk, practising putting it on quickly and then taking it off. Part of her class routine was to practice evacuating the school building for potential air raids, with children and staff seeking shelter in the playground's shelters. However, she remained safe at school and easily managed the mile walk to and from her home – twice a day; no school dinners in those days!

The photo shows the view over the silvery Tay to Fife from the top of Mum's road. It has barely changed, bar the modern-day cars and streetlight.

Shopping, meals and diets were adapted in line with the limitations of rations; vegetables were soon grown in the back garden. During a recent trip to Dundee, I took this photo of Mum's childhood back garden, where my grandfather's vegetables once grew - a practice not continued by more recent residents!



To comply with WWII's nighttime blackout rules, blinds were used to eliminate household lights being seen outside – just in case enemy aircraft spotted and used the lights to aid navigation.

The regular journeys back to family in Ireland were curtailed shortly after the birth of my aunt; my grandfather's car was mothballed and family life took on a very different and localised feel. Still, Mum's memories are happy ones;

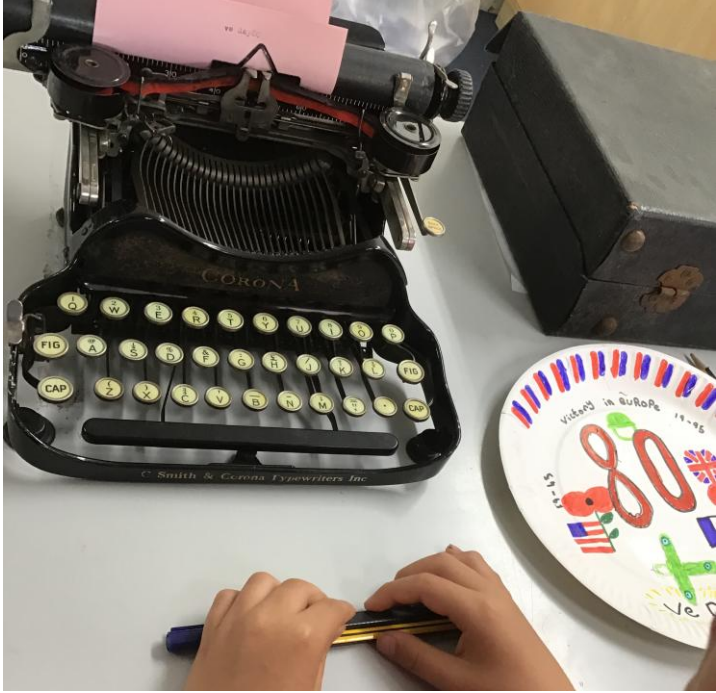
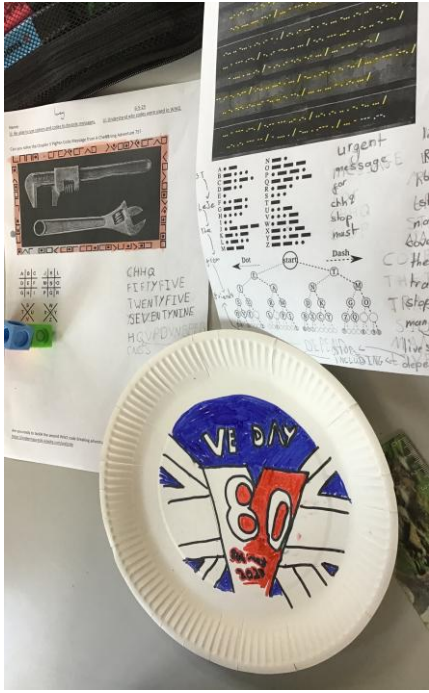
summer holiday breaks at the nearby beach at Carnoustie, enabled my grandad to make brief visits from work and maintain his civilian nightwatchman duties. Mum remembers many changes of staff at school; younger men were 'called up' for active service. Retired teachers were 'called back' into service and took their school responsibilities seriously. The oldest state school in Dundee, the Harris Academy Second World War Memorial, records the names of 72 former pupils, whose lives were lost in active service. Mum has no particular memory of bombs falling on Dundee; history books and websites show that the city picture house and a nearby home were among the buildings impacted. Almost 500 miles north of London and the Blitz, Dundee's riverside location, maritime history, facilities and industry saw a number of bombs landing on its buildings.

Mum's happy school days soon became part of my own history; each of my childhood school holidays was greeted by her cheerfully singing snatches of the Harris Holiday song. Now you have to admire a school that has a song to greet the holidays! Don't worry – I won't be singing it at Chevening, but end Mum's WWII memory with the start of the song:
*"Hurrah for the heath-clad mountain!
Hurrah for the linn's hoarse roar!
Hurrah for the bubbling fountain!
Hurrah for the sandy shore!"*
Many of the original Harris Academy buildings on Perth Road were demolished more recently to make way for the new generation of facilities, as seen in this photo.



I do hope they've kept the Holiday Song!

*Miss Minnis
August 20, 2025*



Evacuated – Alan Leaman

My mother was born in December 1926, so she was almost a teenager when the war started.

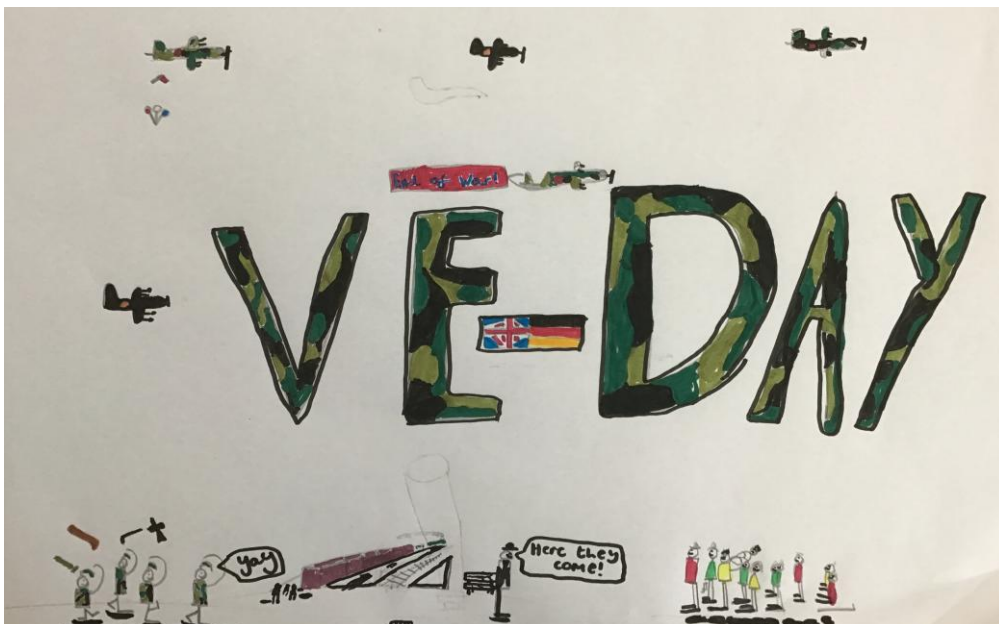
She lived in Cheriton, near Folkstone. Since this was the closest part of England to the continent, and thought therefore to be very dangerous, she was then evacuated with many other local children, including her younger brother.

It was a massive change for both of them when they ended up in South Wales, in mum's case in Merthyr Tydfil, living with a local family.

When she talked about this experience with me and my brother and sister, it was obvious how much this made her grow up and fast! There was no time to worry about anything. She had to get on with her education in a very strange and different environment.

The big story when she got back home was that her house had actually been hit by a bomb, but it hadn't gone off. I'm sure this tale got embellished over the years. But there must have been a truth in it, as my grandfather often took us upstairs to show us where the floorboards had been replaced once the bomb had been removed.

Alan Leaman



By James

The Sorrowful Kitbag

The shiny and new kitbag,
In the corner of the kitchen

Held:

A shiny rifle,
An unused pistol,
A slice of uneaten cake,
And a heart full of hope.

Torn and ripped in the trenches,
The sorrowful kitbag held:

An inkless pen,
A kiss goodbye,
A whistle marking the loss of life,
And a soul of sadness.

Bombed and destroyed,

In No-man's Land,

The lost kitbag hid:

A black and white photo,
An unfinished diary,
A pack of unopened cigarettes,
But a spark of hope.

By Ethan



The Road to Berlin – Christoph Lemke

My great grandfather was called Peter. He was about 25 years old when World War II started. He was directing a tank. He went all the way to Berlin.



He met my great grandmother Tony at the war and they were together for the rest of their lives. Now they have both sadly passed away and I have never met them in person. But I have these great pictures of them.

My great grandmother Tony was a nurse and she was looking after soldiers during the war in field hospitals. She also went all the way to Berlin and celebrated the victory there together with my great grandfather. Peter died in 1998.



By Christoph Lemke

Juno Beach - Today vs D-Day

The Clouds Waved Back

The helpless umbrella
Tossed and twisted through the air
As it bounced, and pounced
Landing straight in the glimmering sea
Waving goodbye to its family.

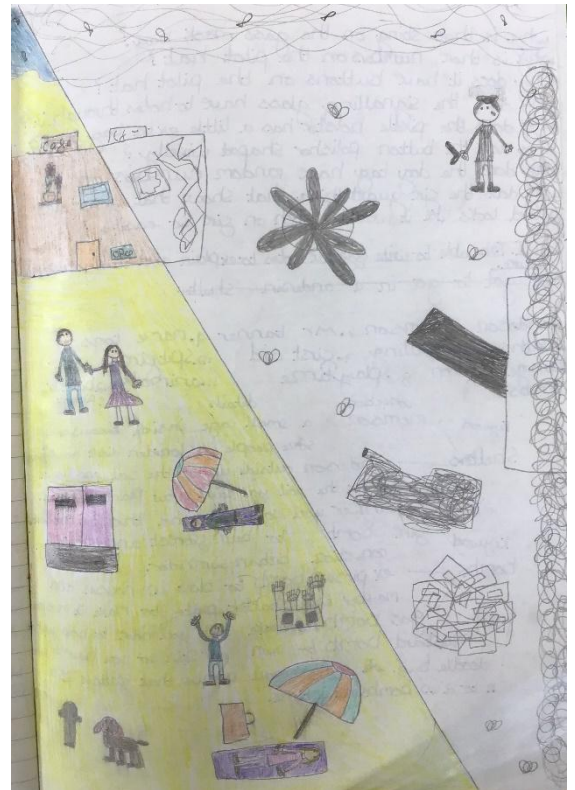
Little did it know
80 Years ago
Of the cunning, disguised mines
Laying, waiting, to pounce on an
unknown victim
Watching the every move of the
frightened, frustrated guards.

The colourful flags waved proudly
At the plain, white beach huts
Consuming the sunlight
Getting hotter and hotter
As the clouds waved back and drifted along the bright blue sky.

Little did they know
80 Years ago
Of the frightened houses
That wanted to hibernate
And crumpled into a little ball

On this beach, where spirits from the past become the future.

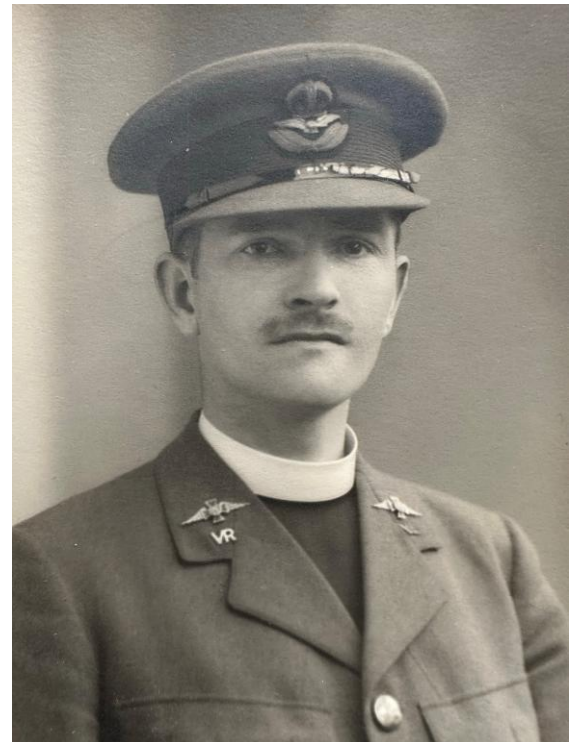
By Klarissa



Squadron leader Arthur Reginald Ankers - RAF Chaplain.

Below you can see Arthur's Air Force wings pin and the pin they were given to leave with their wives/ fiancé.


Reu's great grandfather was a Methodist minister. During the war he was stationed in Africa with the RAF as a chaplain. We have been chatting at home about him recently.



By Laura MacDonald

Two Great Grandfathers – Sinéad Fox

We would like to share a few bits of Jamie's great grandfathers' involvement in WW2. Details of Joseph Gerrard - Jamie's paternal great grandfather - can be seen below. You can also see a news video about the Nigeria Regiment by entering this address... <https://www.britishpathe.com/asset/167796/>

GERRARD, Bernard Joseph Dudley  Son of Maj Gen. J.J. Gerrard, CB, CMG. Married (02.01.1941, St Austin's Church, Nairobi, Kenya) Pamela Margaret De Villiers, widow of Lt Col. Sydney De Villiers, RN - one son, one daughter.		03.05.1901 Steyning district, Sussex 07.01.1965 Central Middlesex Hospital		2nd Lt. 23.12.1921 (6884) Lt. 23.12.1923 Capt. 07.05.1925 Maj. 23.12.1930 A/Lt.Col. 15.11.1940-14.02.1941 T/Lt.Col. 15.02.1941-18.11.1941 05.03.1943-09.12.1945 Lt.Col. 10.12.1949 A/Col. 01.01.1942-13.02.1942 10.08.1943-18.09.1943 11.01.1942-13.02.1942 03.02.1943-15.08.1943 Brip. 01.07.1952 (wtd 31.12.1954)		30.12.1941 10,000 Cam (East Africa & Madagascar) 30.12.1941 10,000 Cam	
23.12.1921	-	Commissioned, The Gordon Highlanders					
12.11.1927	-	26.02.1934 employed under Colonial Office (Royal West African Frontier Force)					
23.09.1938	-	31.08.1940 employed under Colonial Office (Royal West African Frontier Force)					
(1941)	-	1st Nigeria Regiment					
06.01.1942	-	14.02.1942 acting Commander, 1st West Africa Infantry Brigade Group (West Africa)					
16.04.1943	-	21.09.1943 acting Commander, 1st West Africa Infantry Brigade Group (West Africa)					

Jamie's maternal great grandfather; James Whitaker, served in the allied forces (Sep 1939 to Dec 1945) in England mostly; and then Burma, India & Hong Kong.

MEMBERSHIP No. W87
 DATE 14 May 1951
 CARD SERIAL No. 1495
 RENEWAL DATE 24.3.52

W/86/51

Form of application for membership of the
BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION

I, (surname) WHITAKER
 (Christian names in full) James Andrew
 (Rank and decorations, if any) S/Sgt.

wish to apply for Ordinary/Overseas membership of the Burma Star Association, for which I enclose cheque/P.O. No. F5 438055 value 5/5 being my subscription for the year 1951.

I certify that I am a holder of the BURMA STAR.
 My ship/unit during the Burma Campaign was 36th Div.

My present address (to which all communications should be sent until I give notice of change) is
 BLOCK CAPITALS LLOYD'S
LONDON - E.C.3.

Dated 4/5/51
 (Signed) J. Whitaker

* NOTE. Cheque to cover Membership subscription may include cost of ticket at Membership rates, i.e., 5/- plus 2/6. Total 7/6.
 Please make all cheques/P.O.s payable to
 HON. SEC., BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION.
 And enclose a stamped/addressed envelope for your receipt.

Great Grandad Joseph Gerrard

THE LAST GREAT OBSTACLE. The deep gorge of the Awash, planned by the enemy as the final defence: The railway bridge (*below*) lay on the river bed, its back broken; the road bridge (*above*), destroyed at sunset, was replaced by dawn.



Brigadier B. J. D. Gerrard, DSO



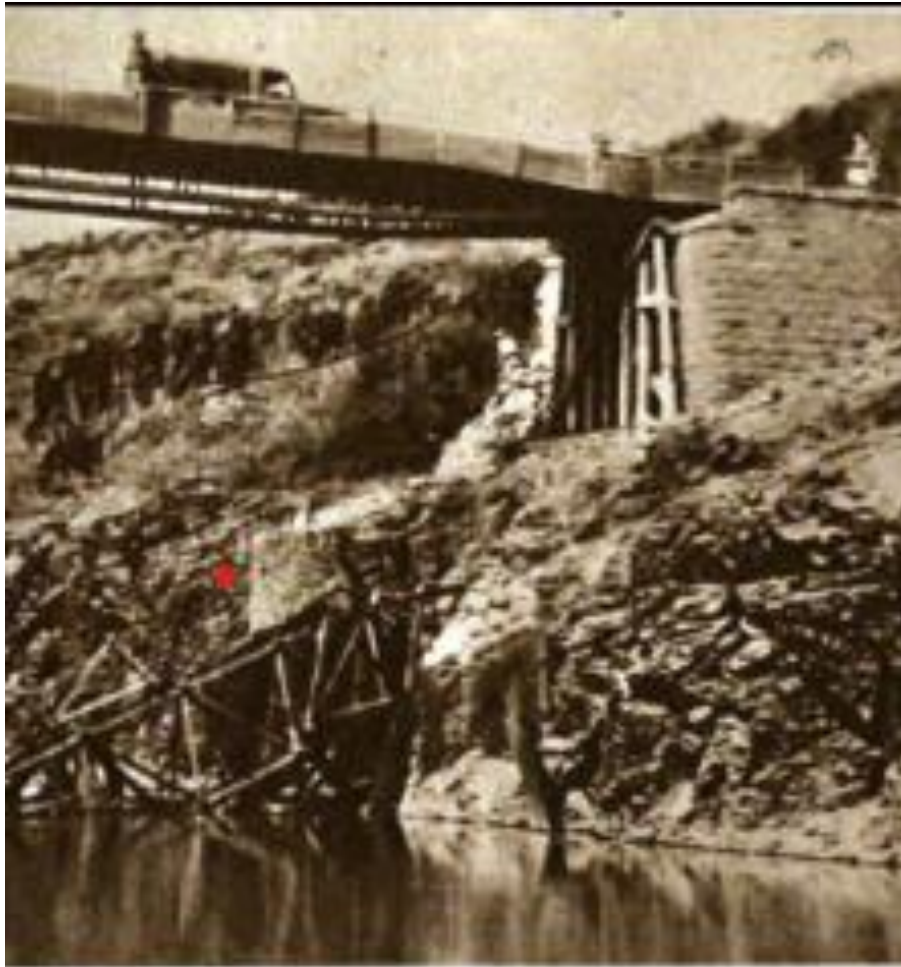
Lieutenant-Colonel Bernard Joseph Dudley Gerrard (6884), The Gordon Highlanders (attached The Nigeria Regiment).

Born in May, 1901, he was educated at Ampleforth College and the RMC Sandhurst, receiving his Commission in the Regiment in 1921.

Two years later he went to the 1st Battalion The Nigeria Regiment and for the next 20 years he served in Africa. It was while commanding that Regiment during the Abyssinian Campaign that he was, in 1942, awarded the DSO.

In 1944 he returned home from Nigeria, to command a Holding Battalion at Ayr and two years later he was selected for the command of the 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders immediately following the amalgamation of the two Regular Battalions.

In 1949 he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier and after two years commanding the troops in Sierra Leone he returned home to become Deputy Commander of the Lowland Division. After retirement in 1955 he was for some years Welfare Officer at Catterick before settling in South Africa in 1963. In





THE GREAT SOLDIER AND STATESMAN WHOM THE WORLD MOURNS

One of Winston Churchill's earliest contacts with the Regiment was at Doornkop during the Boer War of which he wrote—"The honours equally with the cost of victory, making every allowance for skilful direction and bold leading, belong to the 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders . . .". And in an article written at the time to the 'Morning Post' he put it : "There is no doubt that they are the finest regiment in the world . . . The unfaltering advance . . . their machine-like change of direction . . . their final charge with the bayonet, constitute their latest feat of arms the equal of Dargai or Elandslaagte."

Here we reproduce a photograph of a later occasion when on 22nd August, 1942 he inspected the 5th/7th Battalion before they moved up to the Alamein defences,



Jimmy Potter in Africa, The Holy Land and Italy By Avril Southwell

My great grandfather was captured during the war at Brindisi, Italy. He had on him a map showing where the soldiers in his platoon were positioned which he swallowed when he was captured. He was badly injured by shrapnel in both legs but the German doctors saved both his legs when he developed gangrene in captivity. Had he not been injured, he would have continued in the army and risen to a higher-ranking officer through his bravery.

Jimmy Potter died on 6 July 2013 aged 92.



Name: Jimmy Potter (Felix's great grandfather)

Rank / title: Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery

Date of birth: 09th March 1921

Place of birth: Larbet, Scotland

Locations visited during the war: Africa the Holy Land and Italy

Employment during the war: A front-line soldier



Jimmy Potter's Medals of Honour

Information supplied by Avril Southwell



Officially Secret! - Jane Worrell ('Reading Angel' and volunteer)

My Mum died at the early aged of 62, in 1989. At that point we had no idea of what she did in the war although we did know that she had joined the WRNS (Wrens) at the age of 18, working as a driver.

My father died in 2011 and, being the eldest child, I ended up sorting out a massive amount of stored paperwork which included Mum's Naval Record.



Being her remaining next of kin, I was able to find out details of the ships and establishments where she had worked and the dates.

These details included codenames for HMS Pembroke (Eastcote) which was where a lot of the Bombe machines were situated.

After communicating with Bletchley Park I was told that they were able to check her details and establish that she had worked on the Bombe machines for the 6 months prior to VE day.

We were then able to have her name added to the Roll of Honour Record at Bletchley Park and felt very proud of her.





The saddest thing was that none of us had learned of her work during those war years (due to the Official Secrets Act) and we had only found out the information after the death of my father who, I am sure, would have been as proud of her as we were.

Bletchley had a fundraising effort a couple of years ago and we were able to have Mum's name added to the wall.



Jane Worrell (nee Badder!)



Jimmy's Great Grandfather -Benevito Sartori.



(Picture signed From Veny to Kit.
This photo was sent home to his
wife whilst at war.)



Benevito - Back row, last one on the right.



Jimmy's Great, Great Uncle Alf.



WW2 Memories and VE Day - From Teddy & Elise Archer

Cpl Frederick G Kimber – Great Grandfather on maternal side
 Served with 56th Heavy Regiment in the Royal Artillery, 18th Battery.
 (Of note is that Spike Milligan served in the same regiment but 19th Battery).

Known to have been a “Desert Rat” in North Africa.
 Present at the infamous siege of Monte Cassino in Italy.
 Despite being questioned, he never related any stories of his service during WW2.
 Whereabouts on VE Day are likely to have been in Italy.



The Regiment's fields of combat during WW2

Medals awarded, photos of Freddie and his tobacco tin:



Medals from the left are:

1 France & Germany Star, 2 Italy Star, 3 Africa Star, 4 1939-45 Star, 5 War Medal, 6 Defence Medal, 7 At the bottom – The King's Badge awarded for being injured whilst serving.



Photo of vehicle & gun of 56th Heavy Regiment in the Royal Artillery, 18th Battery in Italy.

AB John R P Meredith – Great Grandfather on maternal side.

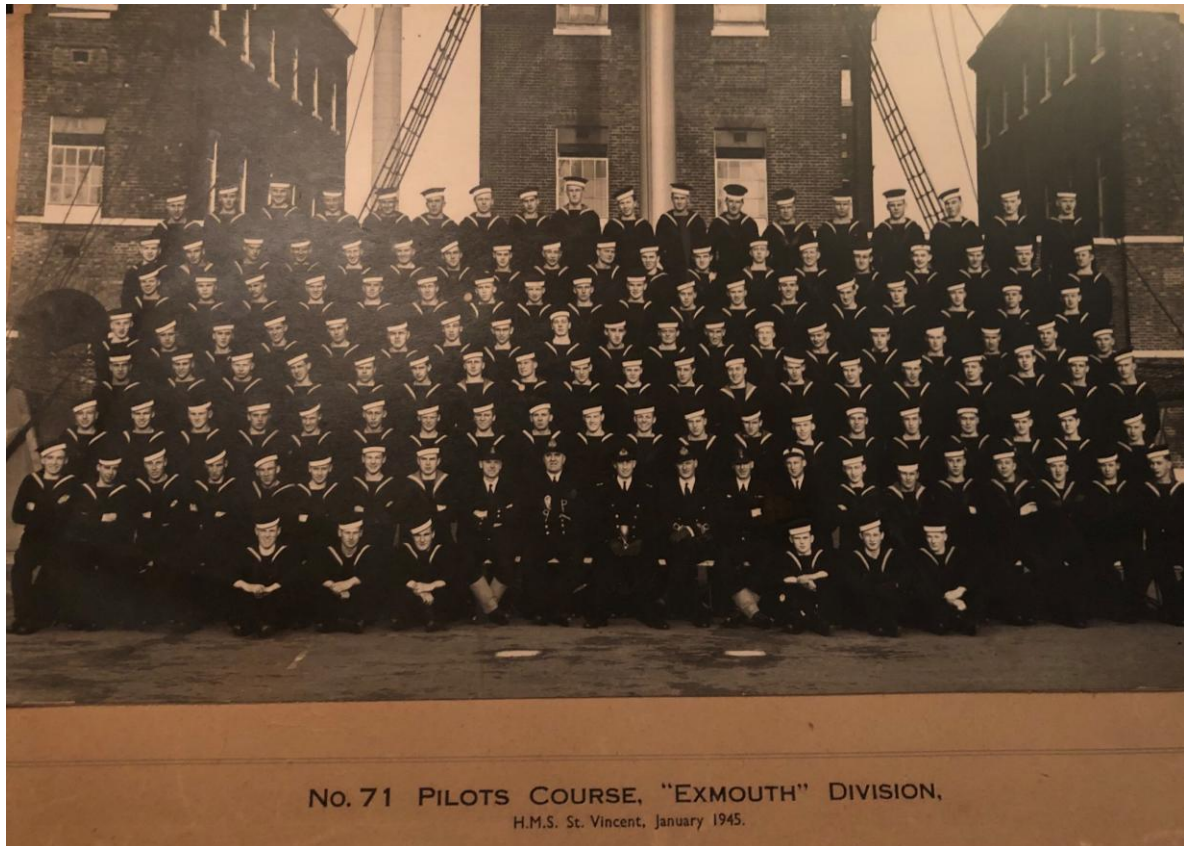
While still at school he was active with the Air Training Corps (1943-44) and the London Fire Service acting as a spotter (1942-4).

Trainee Pilot with the Royal Navy (Fleet Air Arm) assigned to HMS St Vincent on No 71 Pilots Course, "Exmouth" Division. Transferred to Bunker Hill, Indiana and Corpus Christi, Texas.

Never saw active service but celebrated VE Day in Enfield & London.

Posted to Hamburg as part of the Marshall Plan in 1946 and witnessed the results of allied bombing on that city.

John Meredith



HMS St Vincent on No 71 Pilots Course, "Exmouth" Division Full student photo





Pictures from America 1945



Pictures of VE day taken in Enfield, Middlesex where John lived with his parents, plus larger copies of celebrations in London & Enfield.



Medals awarded:
1 Atlantic Star, 2 1939-45 Star

Pvte Jack Baker – Great, Great Uncle on maternal side

Served with South Lancashire, Prince of Wales Volunteers Regiment, 1st Battalion from April 1944. Saw action in Holland (R Maas & Tilburg) and Germany (Bremen) then transferred to Palestine after WW2 had finished.

Celebrated VE in Bremen – See extract from his War memoir



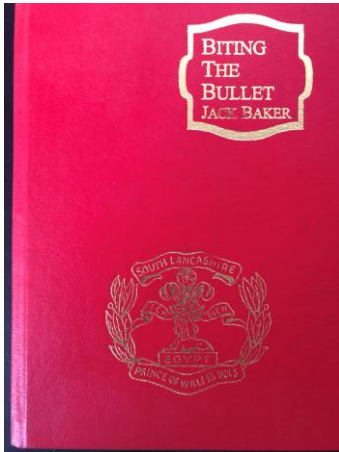
Jack Baker

Medals (shown with regimental beret and insignia) awarded are:

- 1 1939-45 Star
- 2 War Medal
- 3 France & Germany Star
- 4 Defence Medal
- 5 General Service Medal – Palestine



Front cover of War memoir book
with extract on location on VE Day



Bremen in attack order there was death and destruction all around us as we took up our positions in the centre of Bremen. This was the last attack I took part in. It was not long after this that surrender was signed on Lunenburg Heath with Field Marshall Montgomery and the German High Command – what was left of them. We went back to a place called Furstenau which was about fifty miles inland from Bremen and were welcomed at about one o'clock in the morning by Officers and N.C.O's of our platoon and company who were bringing round double rum rations when you held out mug, a very good portion of neat rum was dispatched and we were told that the war in Europe was over and that we should enjoy our rum. That was really a night to celebrate and remember. It was May 8th 1945.

There was a very large victory parade at Porsdam, near Berlin for the British Forces and we were due to be there, but for us this was not to be, as we were in fact going to be sent back to Oxfordshire and from there to Kentucky in the USA to be equipped with United States army kit and money to form a British Empire Corps. This Corps was to be made up of the First Canadian Infantry Division, The Second Australian Infantry Division and the Third British Infantry Division. You see the Lancashires' were in the Third British Infantry Division. As I understand it the Corps of which we were a part, were going to land on mainland Japan. The Americans were going to have the biggest say in this. This was the plan laid on for us – American uniforms, American pay, ready to be the infantry side of the Empire Corps representing Britain – the first to land on Japan. First of all we were sent to a place called Blankenberge in Belgium where we went to have a rest for three days. I was there with Les, walking along the road, when we heard the news come through that VJ had been announced – Victory in Japan – whereas VE day had been Victory in Europe. This was because the Americans had dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki and another one on Hiroshima. This had caused the Japanese to sign a Cease Fire Treaty in their area, which meant that peace was once again restored throughout the world.





HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA
071-219 3405

27 November 1992

Dear Mr Baker,

Very many thanks for your recent letter and for the copy of "Biting the Bullet", which is so handsomely bound. I am delighted to have this and look forward to reading it.

Meanwhile, I have inscribed your copy and return it herewith.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Winston S. Churchill

J.G. Baker, Esq.,
Photostatic Copiers Limited,
Popes Lane,
Oldbury, Warley,
West Midlands B69 4PE

Letter from Winston Churchill



**A Chain Poem Written and performed by Class 3
for the VE Day Commemoration**

A terrifying message bringing fear to families – 3rd September 1939

BBC Announcer: This is London.
You will now hear a statement by
the Prime Minister, Neville
Chamberlain...

"This morning the British
Ambassador handed the German
Government a final note stating
that, unless we heard that they
were prepared to withdraw their
troops from Poland, a state of war
would exist between us.
No assurance has been received.
Now; may God bless you all."

A terrifying message bringing fear to families
Families divided, children evacuated on trains
Trains running from the terrible bombs
Bombs devouring homes and countries
Countries struggling in a terrible war.

BBC Announcer: This is London.
Here is the Prime Minister, the Right
Honourable Winston Churchill.

"We shall not flag nor fail.
We shall go on to the end.
We shall fight in France and on the
seas and oceans;

We shall defend our island
whatever the cost;
we shall fight on the beaches,
landing grounds, fields, and in the
streets.

We shall never surrender..."

Countries struggling in a terrible war.
“The war was the worst years of my life.”
Lives come to an end, with tears in eyes
Eyes that close, praying for a pause
A pause would give a glimmer of hope.
Hope finally restored with a new message.

BBC Announcer: This is
London. Here is the Prime
Minister, the Right
Honourable Winston
Churchill...
“God bless you all.
This is your victory!
It is the victory of the cause
of freedom in every land.
In all our long history we
have never seen a greater
day than this.
Everyone, man or woman,
has done their best.
God bless you all.”

Hope finally restored to the people.
People cheered and waved flags
Flags representing each country
Countries enjoying feasts
But feasts made from rations
Rationed food but still lots of dancing

Lambeth Walk - instrumental

Rationed food but still lots of dancing
Joyful dancing in the streets
Streets full of crowds of people
People climbing lampposts, to better see
See the men, women and children cheering the war's end.
Europe's war's ends, marked by VE Day smiles.

But some smiles on hold, as the East is remembered.
Remembrance.
Voices echo: “We must never do this again”.



Planting Poppies



Church of England Prayer:

(Posted in November 2025)

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day
when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know
the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ
our Lord.

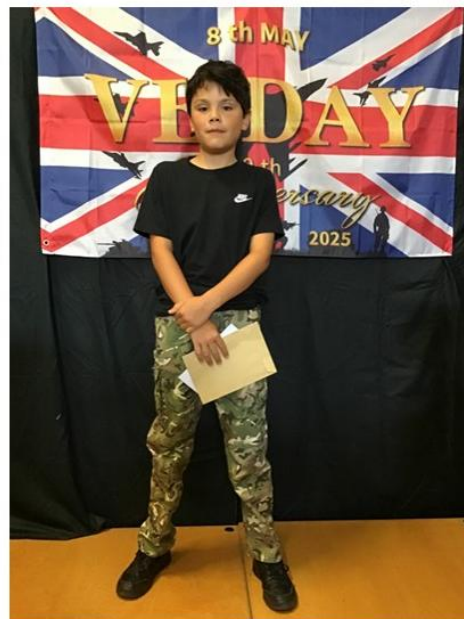
Amen

Cast Members and Inspiration for
Chevening's - Performing Arts Club
VE Day Performance:

Mary & Theia



Jimmy Potter & Felix



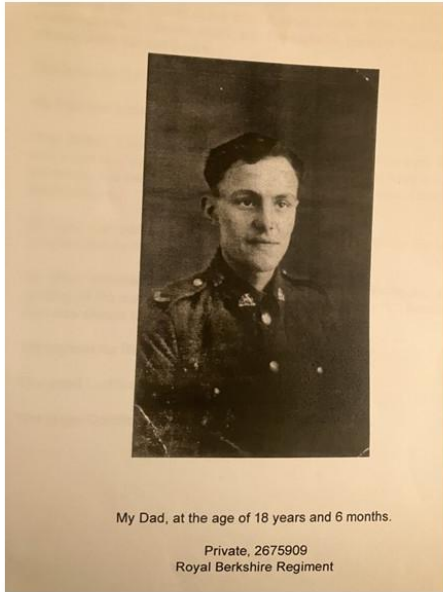
Eric Kirkland & Tamsin



George Nash & Sam



John Samuel Botton & Arthur



Edwin Arthur Bellwood & Ethan



Rev. Arthur Reginald Ankers & Reuben



Ron Waterman & Sophie



William Mansfield & Poppy



Maurice Graham Webster & Lily



Sudin Folia & Noelle



Timothy Lang & Tabby



Harry Frake & Ben

HMS Boadicea



John Daniel Wilhem Gerber & Renée



Samuel Musgave Jason & Klarissa



James Garfield Brown & Walter



Stanley Hugh Monk & Jaikę – Jos



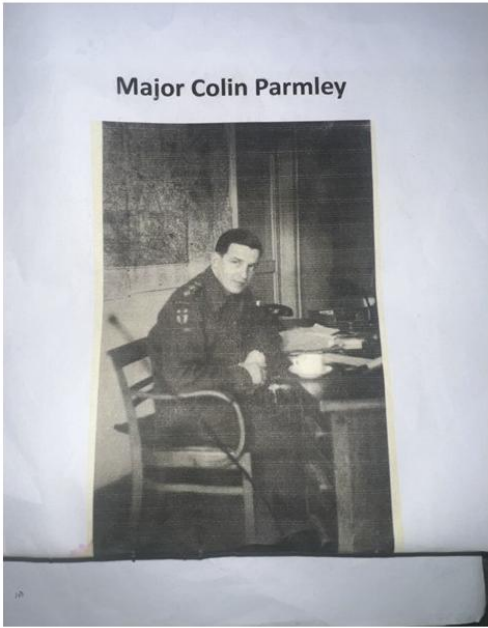
Daisy & Skyla - Lily



Carmel Mifsud & Amelie



Colin Parmley & Keira



Lawrence Brown & Polly



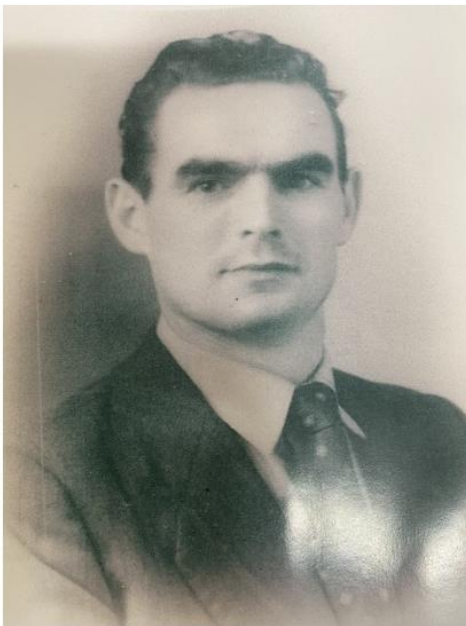
Kalman Toth & Josh



Norman James William Brown & Harrison



Giacomino (Jack) Cavanna & James



Edgar Leonard Robinson & Aria



Giuseppe Chiavarini & Isobel



Dr Mary Wickham & Grace



Shirley & Poppy



Edwin George Booth & Alice



George Major Old & Adam



Andrew Thompson & Charlie



Leonard Powell & Josh



William Arthur Williams & Blake



Peter & Christoph



Art in June VE80 Entries Continued:



By Edie

Chevening School is very fortunate to have been invited to take part in the Art in June workshops at Dibgate Farm for a number of years. This year's competition to see who would be invited to attend was based on submitted images to commemorate VE80 Day. You can find many pictures from the competition within this book.



Hayley
By Hayley

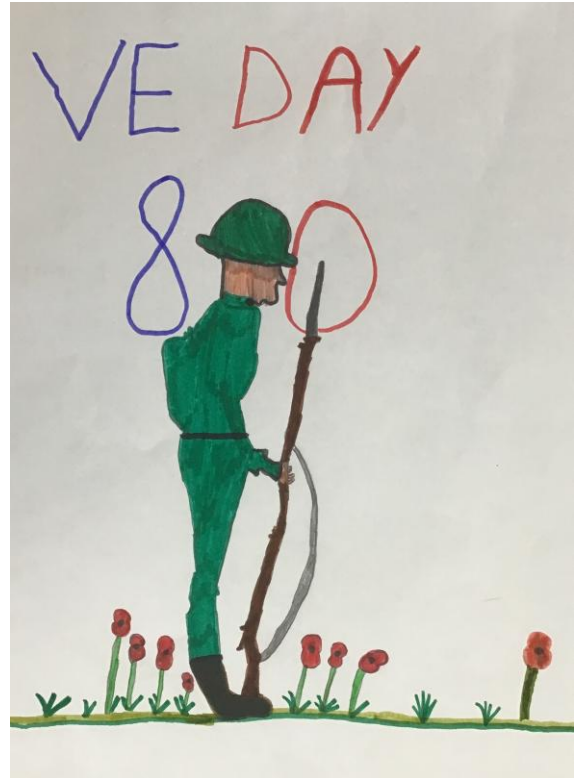
I Am the Peace Waiting to be Heard

I am the bomb falling out of the sky
I am the sky, choking and spluttering in smoke
I am the smoke, seeping out in the devastation
I am the devastation caused by war
I am the war, bringing bullets and guns
I am the guns laying wasted in the mud
I am the mud capturing boots in every step
I am the steps, slowly falling to the ground
I am the ground full of rubble and broken buildings
I am the buildings suffering the sirens
I am the sirens, screaming 'no peace'
I am the peace waiting to be heard.

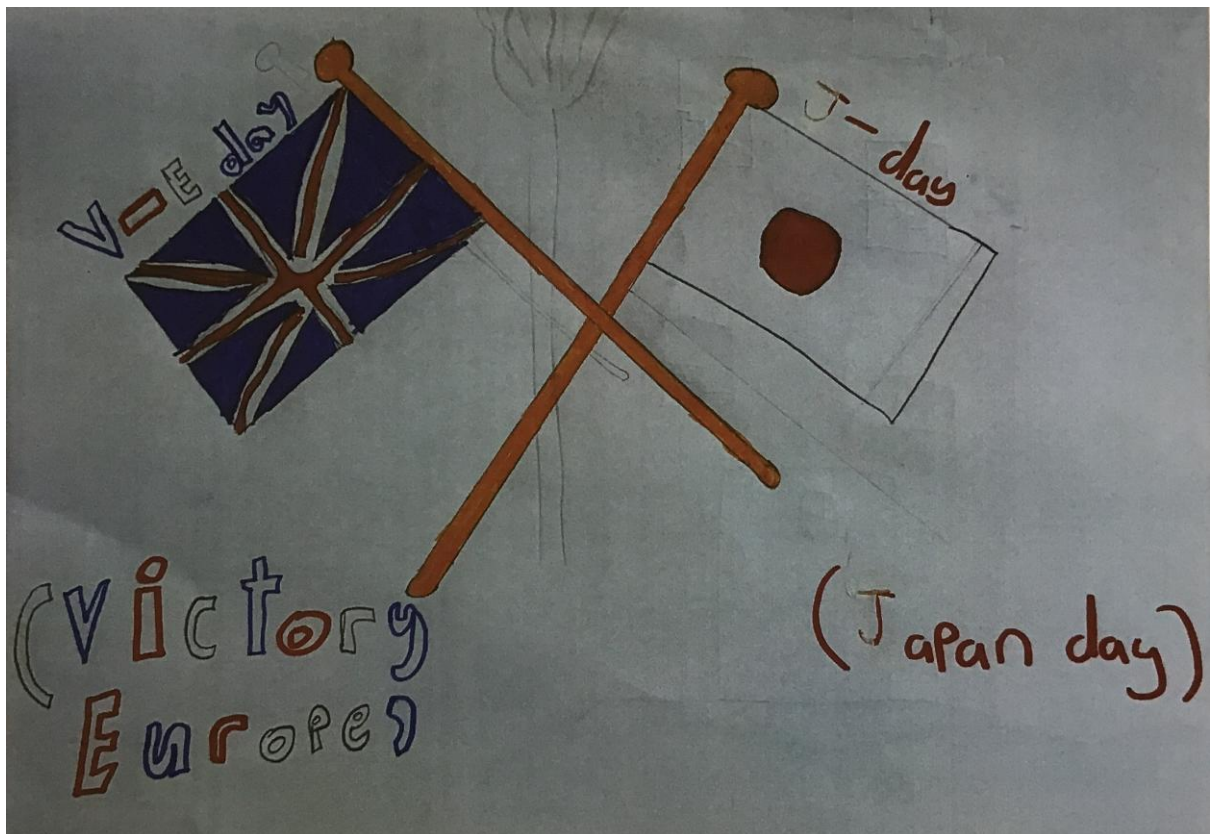
By Lily



By Sophie



By Felix



By Olivia



By William



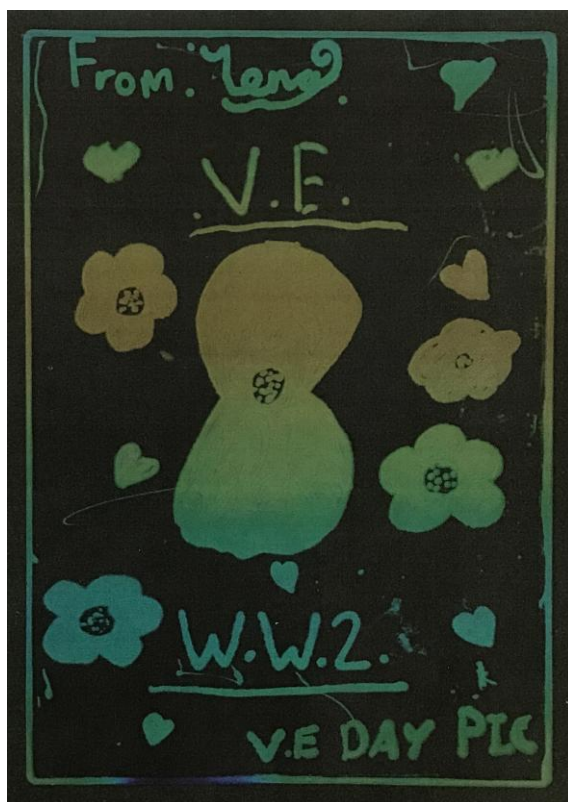
By Primrose



By Clara



By William



By Lucy



By Jacob

Lest We Forget

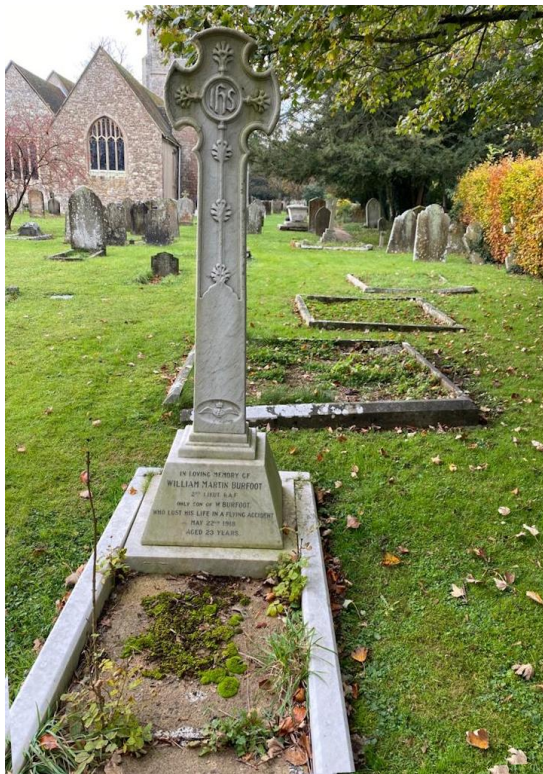
I am the soldier waiting to fight on the battlefield
I am the battlefield full of gas and bombs
I am the bombs that kill the bodies
I am the dead body that didn't survive
I am the survivor, patiently waiting to go home
I am the home of the fighter, better than the trench
I am the trench, stained with blood shed
I am the bloodshed drenching no-man's land
I am no-man's land, growing with poppies
I am the poppy that brings peace
We are the peacemakers who defeat the war.

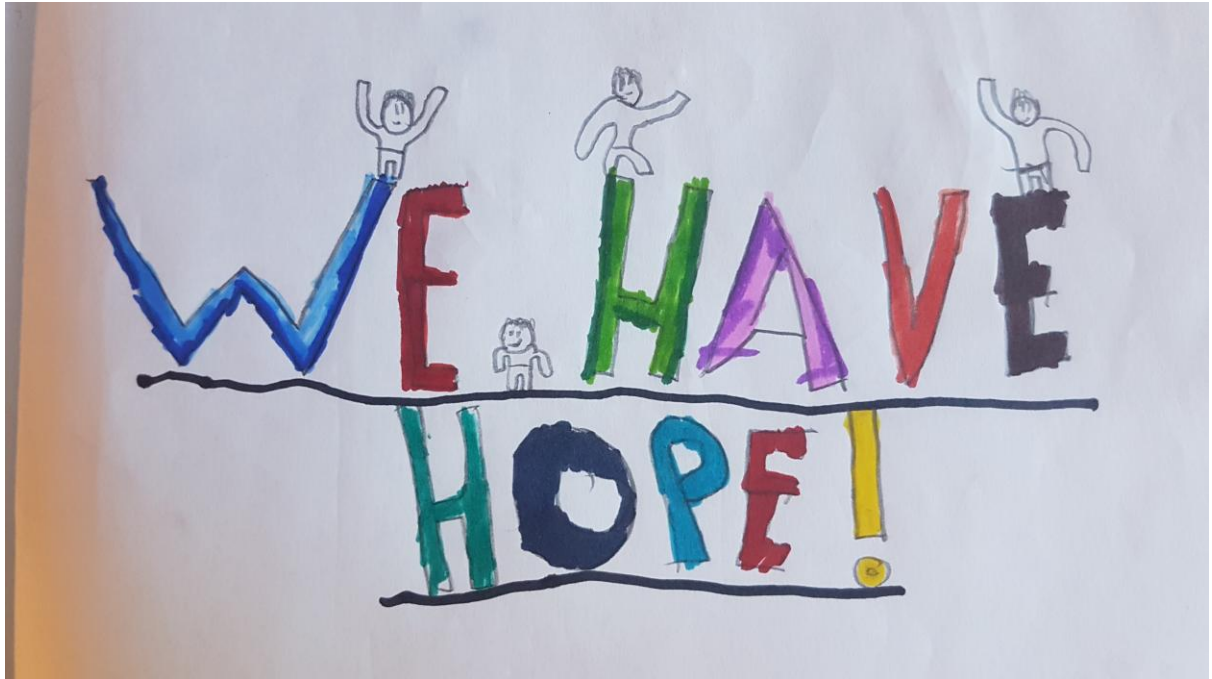
By Poppy



By Hughie









By Charlie



VE Day in Lockdown – Extract from the ‘Chevening Together – Reflections of Hope & Courage’ Book

It was a very strange and special VE Day during ‘lockdown’. We did our street party as planned, but everyone was 2 metres apart and on their lawns. Our neighbour said he was going to sing and play on his piano ‘We’ll Meet Again’ and then other classic VE Day songs for an hour. But we all loved the music so much he ended up playing for another 3 hours! I think by the end his fingers really hurt because he had to say, “last song!”

Most families went in after that but me and my next door neighbours stayed out for ages and played in the street. It was very fun even though we had to be 2m apart. I hadn’t played with my friends for so long! I will remember that day forever and ever!

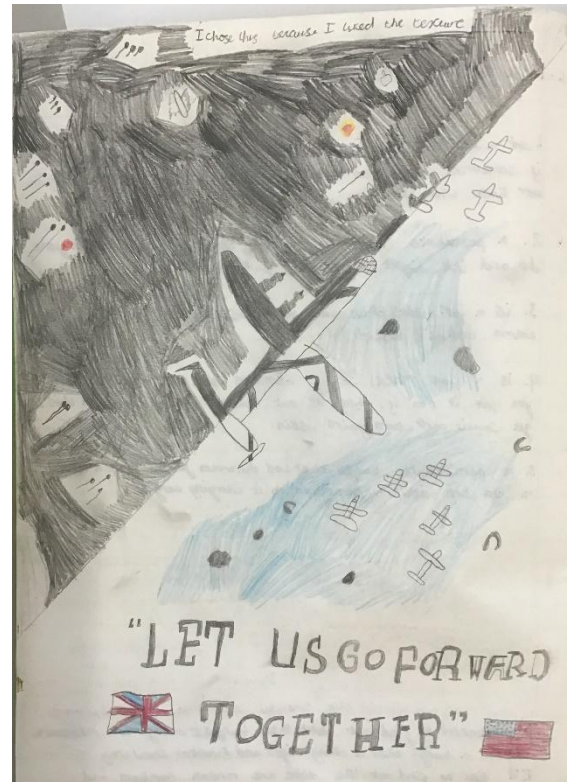




Celebrations: VE Day – End of the War

Soldiers fought for our country
Countries attacked around Europe
Europe an endless fighting zone
A zone where children had to leave
Leave for a safer place
A place that they couldn't be hurt
Hurt from the war
The war that ended led to a party
Party Celebrations!
Celebrations for VE Day
The end of the war in Europe

By Avery





Other Publications from Chevening CEP School

[The Faith Book](#)

[The Grace Book](#)

[Dare to Doodle](#)

[Birdbox Bonanza](#)

[Best Books Galore](#)

[Thy Kingdome Come](#)

[Making a Reflective Garden](#)

[The Pearl and Crystal Garden](#)

[12 Carols of Exaltation and Joy](#)

[Recycled, Repurposed, Renewed](#)

[12 Affirmations in 8 languages \(fem\)](#)

[12 Affirmations in 8 languages \(masc\)](#)

[Chevening Together – Reflections of Hope & Courage](#)

[Get That Book \(Book Reviews\)](#)

[Get That Book Too \(Book Reviews\)](#)

[Get That Book 3 Quotable Colouring](#)

[Get That Book 4 Quotable Colouring](#)

In addition

[Secrets of a Ballistic Cat – Stella Whitelaw](#)

For more information or purchases
(all titles in digital and physical forms)

www.lulu.com/spotlight/Chevening

Own Notes for Reflection



